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Glimpse into past as 1921 census gives up its secrets

By Krissy Storrar

FASCINATING insights into the lives of people 100 years ago can now be found after 1921's census details were revealed.

Members of the public can uncover or further explore their family trees online after the survey's personal details were made public by National Records of Scotland.

It showed that the number of people living in Scotland on June 19, 1921, stood at 4.8million compared with today's population of 5.4million, and only 3.4 per cent were over the age of 70 compared with 14 per cent in the most recent records.

The census also includes the last time people were recorded living on St Kilda before the island was evacuated in 1930. There were 73 residents in 1921, most of them crofters or hand loom weavers.

Jocelyn Grant, an archivist at National Records of Scotland said: 'Recorded on the night of 19 June 1921, we can explore where a person was staying, what their home was like, who they were with, what their occupation was and who they worked for. This information makes the census a fantastic resource for researchers and family historians.'

